

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 20 and 31-39. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1-18 (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a plurality of user-selectable software programs for use with a computer device in accordance with a task disk control file contained on storage media external to or removable from the computer device, said method comprising:

detecting an insertion of the storage media into the computer device;

activating the storage media to establish communication with the computer device;

determining that the task disk control file indicates the presence of the plurality of user-selectable software programs located on the storage media;

providing from the task disk control file a list of the plurality of software programs located on the storage media;

selecting one of the plurality of software programs for execution, wherein a user performs said selecting;

providing special instructions in a control sub-file located on the storage media for each of the selected plurality of task disk control sub-files corresponding to the plurality of software programs, wherein the plurality of task disk control sub-files is located on the storage media, and the special instructions in each task disk the-control sub-file including include configuration information, software launching information[[; and]], data file storage information, and clean-up information:

transferring files specified in the configuration information and configuring the computer device from a first state in accordance with the configuration information, wherein upon configuration said transferring and said configuring changes the computer device is in from a first state to a second state;

launching the selected software in accordance with the software launching information; monitoring events to determine various stages in the operation of the selected software; and

unconfiguring the computer device upon termination of the software program by removing files transferred to the computing device and configuration settings in accordance with the clean-up information to essentially return the computer device to the first state.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19claim 20, wherein the list of software programs only includes the programs having a corresponding task disk control sub-file.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein said transferring further comprising copying one or more files to said computer device to create said second state, wherein the files include includes transferring one or more of the following:

linked library files, device drivers, path information, environmental information, and registry entries.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein said unconfiguring step comprises removing in accordance with the clean-up information all files ~~copied transferred~~ to create said second state.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
selecting a plurality of software programs for execution;
configuring the computer device for each of the plurality of software programs selected by ~~copying transferring~~ one or more files to said computer device, wherein the files include one or more of the following:
linked library files, device drivers, path information, environmental information, and registry entries.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, further comprising unconfiguring the computer device upon termination of each of the executed software programs by removing in accordance with the clean-up information any files ~~copied transferred~~ during configuration and any new files created during execution of each terminated software program.

26. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the storage media comprises a flash memory drive.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the storage media comprises a CompactFlash drive.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the storage media comprises an optical drive.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the storage media comprises a removable magnetic media drive.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the storage media comprises an external hard disk drive.

31–39 (Canceled)

40. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said selecting is performed by the user using a text-based menu.

41. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said selecting is performed by the user using a graphical user interface.